UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# memorandum

**DATE:** 15 November, 1990

**REPLY TO ATTN OF:** ███████████████ DT-S    SG1J

**SUBJECT:** SUN STREAK bibliographic database - interim report (U)

SG1J **TO:** ████████████ Chief, DT-S

1. (U)   The programming for the SUN STREAK bibliographic database is complete through the first stage:

    a.   The "shell" programming was completed on 5 NOV 90.  This "shell" is only a translator, converting simple user requests into the complex DBase III+ language.  It allows the bibliographic database to be used by anyone, whether or not they know all the hundreds of various commands required by DBase III+.  It does not input or retrieve data, but does act as a "controller" for the programs which do (see below).

    b.   The "data input" programming, which allows input of bibliographic data, was completed and tied into the "shell" programming on 7 NOV 90.

    c.   By 9 NOV 90, more than 200 bibliographic references were entered into the database, to give an initial foundation, as well as to act as a test base for the programming.

    d.   The "data retrieval" programming, which allows retrieval of bibliographic references was completed on 9 NOV 90.  Testing of this program was completely on 13 NOV 90, and the program was tied into the "shell" on 14 NOV 90.

2. (U)   The second stage:   The second stage of programming will enhance the database capabilities.

    a.   At the present time, retrieval of references can be accomplished by requesting (in part or in whole):

        1)   Part or all of the author's name(s).

        2)   Part or all of the title.

        3)   Part or all of the Publisher's name.

        4)   Date of publication.

        5)   Whether or not the written work is in our library.

    b.   Sufficient "tie-in points" were provided in the initial programming to allow an additional capability which will require future

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(2nd stage) programming.  This future capability will allow a user to request bibliographic information by subject matter (i.e. "hypnotism", "research", etc.).  In order to accomplish this,

1)   A final decision must be made concerning which subjects will be included in our database.

2)   Additional programming must be written, tested, and tied in to the "shell" program.

3)   All records entered into the database at the time of tie-in must be changed and updated according to the subject matter covered by each bibliographic entry.

c.   The third and final stage:  Programming will eventually provide alternate methodologies for data retrieval.

1)   The present method of data retrieval allows a user to enter known information into a blank (for example "Rhine" into the author field and "Psy" into the title field).  The program will retrieve, in this case, all bibliographic references which have J.B. Rhine as an author or co-author, and the letters "Psy..." in the title.

2)   In the final stage of programming, a "retrieval by index" capability will be provided, where the user can cursor down through an index of subject topics.  When the cursor is on the desired line of the index, a button can be pressed, and the programming will retrieve all references dealing with that subject matter.

3)   This is an entirely new concept in database retrieval and no known programming presently exists to allow for this capability.  Therefore, all programming in this area must be original, and must be thoroughly tested before implementation on a back-up database for initial user-testing.  Once completed, it should provide the user with a method of database retrieval which is far advanced over present methods.

4)   Time requirements for final implementation on the SUN STREAK database cannot presently be projected with accuracy, but should require at least an estimated month.  This time estimate includes consideration for other work loads.  It does not take into consideration that, as of the present time, I am on orders to be transferred to another military unit.  If this does occur, the third stage of programming will have to be scrapped, unless another programmer familiar with DBase III+ programming can be found.

SG1J

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DIA, DT-S